

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 643

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James Francis Brown,
Sr., of Loudon.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of James F. Brown, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, James Brown served with acumen and alacrity in the hotel business for many years, in which position he enjoyed much success and earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born in Greene County, Georgia on February 14, 1912, Mr. Brown was just nineteen days shy of his 100th birthday at the time of his death and was one of three living sons in Tennessee whose fathers fought in the Civil War; his father, James H.H. Brown was a Confederate soldier from 1861-1864 and a witness to General Lee's signing of the surrender at Appomattox; and

WHEREAS, James Brown, Sr., also answered the call to duty in World War II as a member of the United States Navy, protecting and defending his country while following his father's path of military service; and

WHEREAS, beginning his extensive career in the hospitality industry in Mobile, Alabama, in 1933, James Brown followed his career to Maine, where he welcomed visitors to the state for ten years, and eventually to Franklin, Pennsylvania, where he owned a hotel for seventeen years; and

WHEREAS, while living in Pennsylvania, Mr. Brown served on the Pennsylvania Board of Hoteliers, the Salvation Army Board for twelve years, and the Franklin Hospital Board, which he served as chairman; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement from the hotel industry at the age of forty-nine, Mr. and Mrs. Brown relocated to Gainesville, Florida, where he managed the Gainesville Country Club for five years and served on the board of a local bank; and

WHEREAS, after the death of his second wife, Betty, he moved to Tellico Village in Loudon to live with his son, Jim, and his wife, Nancy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown was a devout member of the Community Church of Tellico Village, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, very active in the community, he had been a thirty-second degree Mason and a life member since 1936, a member of Kiwanis since 1941, a Shriner since 1948, Who's Who in America in the 1960s, and a member of the Tellico Village Solos Club and the Sons of Confederate Veterans; and

WHEREAS, he also loved to travel, read, dance, and play golf, boasting seven holes-in-one, and he enjoyed the company of his family and many friends throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, a loving and devoted family man, James Brown was preceded in death by his parents, James H.H. Brown and Fanny Moore Brown; his wife and the mother of his son, Martha Lee Smith; and his wife, Elizabeth "Betty" Parker; and

WHEREAS, his memory will be greatly cherished by his son, James F. Brown, Jr.; his stepdaughter, Marianne Fife, and her husband, John M. Fife; his granddaughter, Laura Brown; his step-grandchildren, John Fife III, and his wife, Dee, and David Fife, and his wife, Jennifer; and six great-grandchildren, Sean, Haley, Trevor, Abbey, Carly, and Eliana; and

WHEREAS, James Brown, Sr., leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of James Francis Brown, Sr., celebrating his long

and joyful life and reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Brown.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.